SYNOPSIS 13

'THE LAND OF LIGHT AND PEACE'

BY

JAMES MITCHELL

ACT I

At the 'League of Light' meeting hall, a group of people are attending a seance run by Miss Hogg. The group includes Callan, Jane Ellis and Geoffrey Glaister. It is clear from a conversation which follows the seance that Callan is a new member. Meres reports to Hunter that he has examined the contents of Glaister's flat and found nothing suspicious except a safe which he was unable to open. Callan arrives to report on the seance. The Section is looking for microdot film of 47 pages of vital information missing from the Ministry of Defence. Callan and Meres go to a safe-makers with an official letter of introduction and are shown details of lock mechanisms. They then break into Glaister's flat. While they are working on the safe, he unexpectedly returns to the flat and Meres knocks him out. Unfortunately, because of a heart condition about which they were ignorant, the shock of the blow kills him. To make matters worse, having opened the safe, they do not find the microfilm. Miss Ellis goes for a private reading to Miss Hogg. During their conversation it becomes clear that they are tied not only by an interest in the occult but also by secret intelligence activities. Hunter and Callan discuss Miss Ellis. She is now number one suspect since she was Glaister's fiancee and because both she and Glaister were clerks in the Ministry of Defence. Chalmers and Lynn, two detectives, interview Jane Ellis in Glaister's flat. At the end of their conversation she mentions David Callan as a new friend of the dead man.

ACT II

On Hunter's instructions, Meres goes to Miss Hogg (ostensibly for spiritual guidance) but really to see if he can establish any link between her and the missing microdots. After a seance later that afternoon, Miss Ellis invites Callan to have a cup of tea with her. They go into a local tea shop to discover Detective Inspector Chalmers waiting for them. Chalmers, an elderly man (anxious to solve this, his last case) asks

((MORE))

'THE LAND OF LIGHT AND PEACE'

ACT II (cont.)

Callan one or two searching questions which imply that the police suspect Callan of implication in the murder. Callan reports to Hunter who makes nothing of the possible criminal charge but instructs Callan to continue his relationship with Miss Ellis in the hope of finding some clue to the whereabouts of the missing microdots. Meres returns to Miss Hogg and drugs her in order to search her flat. Callan goes home to find Chalmers waiting for him. The Detective has discovered a great deal about Callan, starting from finger prints left on a cup in the tea shop and through his criminal and army records. It is evident thst Callan's fear of arrest is well justified. Meres discovers microfilm in Miss Hogg's flat and returns to Hunter triumphant. Callan is told by Hunter that the microdots have been recovered. He has little sympathy for Callan's personal worries and only half-heartedly agrees to make representation to Home Office officials in the event if Callan's arrest. When Callan has gone, however, Hunter discovers that there are still six microdots missing.

ACT III

The detectives return to Glaister's flat to search again for some really incriminating evidence, some detail which may have been overlooked. They find a thread of cloth stuck to a nail. Callan takes Miss Ellis to the 'League of Light' meeting hall. There he pressures her into revealing the whereabouts of the missing microdots. Meantime Hunter (now realising the imminence of Callan's arrest) goes to the Home Office to see Sir John Ingoe who, after an apparently unco-operative conversation, reluctantly agrees to close the Glaister case and remove both Callan and Meres from suspicion. Detective Inspector Chalmers visits Callan at home and tells him that although the case cannot be officially solved, he personally knows that Callan is to blame and will always remember it.

((ENDS))

'THE LAND OF LIGHT AND PEACE'

CAST LIST

MISS HOGG	BETTY MARSDEN
GEOFFREY GLAISON	ALAN CULLEN
JANE ELLIS	AVRIL ELGAR
CALLAN	EDWARD WOODWARD
HUNTER	DEREK BOND
MERES	ANTHONY VALENTINE
MARKINCH	IAN COPPER
DETECTIVE INSPECTOR CHALMERS	WENSLEY PITHEY
DETECTIVE SERGEANT LYNN	BRUCE PURSHASE
SIR BRUCE INGOE	JOHN BARRARD
SIR BRUCE'S SECRETARY	ROBIN LLOYD
HUNTER'S SECRETARY	LISA LANGDON
DESIGNED BY:	MIKE HALL
DIRECTED BY:	PIERS HAGGARD
PRODUCED BY:	REGINALD COLLIN